

1 1. A pipeline system for decoding a data stream of data having portions
2 encoded according to different standards comprising:

3 a sequence of pipeline stages, at least one of the pipeline stages being
4 reconfigurable to operate according to the different standards;
5 the at least one of the pipeline stages including processing circuitry with an
6 active state which is entered when the data received by the at least one of the
7 pipeline stages has a predetermined activation pattern, the predetermined activation
8 pattern corresponding to one of the different standards;

9 the at least one of the pipeline stages including a state machine having a
10 current state and a previous state; and
11 wherein the at least one of the pipeline stages is activated upon recognition of
12 the predetermined activation pattern only upon a predetermined transition from the
13 previous state to the current state.

1 2. The pipeline system of claim 1, wherein the processing circuitry has an
2 inactive state, in which the at least one of the pipeline stages passes data to a
3 following pipeline stage without processing.

1 3. The pipeline system of claim 1, wherein the sequence of pipeline
2 stages includes at least one spatial decoder stage.

1 4. The pipeline system of claim 1, wherein the sequence of pipeline
2 stages includes at least one temporal decoder stage.

1 5. The pipeline system of claim 1, wherein the at least one of the pipeline
2 stages is a spatial decoder stage.

1 6. The pipeline system of claim 1, wherein the at least one of the pipeline
2 stages is a temporal decoder stage.